



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES
CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH
SECRETARY

WAYNE E. BLACK
SR. DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES
AND COUNTY OPERATIONS

APRIL 20, 2017

**DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DEAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF CHILD PLACING AGENCIES**

ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE STAFF

SUBJECT: PATHWAYS PROJECT FOR NC YOUTH IN TRANSITION

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), through the Pathways Project, has selected North Carolina as one of six regions to present selected topics and tools from its signature *Your Money, Your Goals* (YMYG) toolkit designed to educate foster youth regarding financial planning. For North Carolina, this project is known as the Pathways Project for NC Youth in Transition. Through the Pathways Project for NC Youth in Transition, caseworkers and other front-line staff will be provided technical assistance and training on selected tools found in the toolkit. The toolkit provides financial empowerment assessments and information on how money is viewed among diverse people based on culture, values, and other differentiators. In addition, content topics include goal setting, saving for emergencies, irregular bills, goals, cash flow, credit, debt, financial services & products, and consumer protection. The toolkit is available at www.consumerfinance.gov/your-money-your-goals.

A select number of participants from pilot agencies will be trained on the specific YMYG program elements and tools specific to the foster care population. The selected participants will attend a pre-training workshop webinar and a live 1-2 day train-the-trainer workshop and then begin implementing the tools with young people in foster care. Participants will also train additional staff within their agencies as well as foster parents, placement providers, and other agencies across the state.

Target Youth: Youth currently or formerly in foster care ages 17-21, and youth currently or formerly in foster care ages 13-16.

Target Stakeholders: County child welfare workers (including LINKS workers, Licensing workers, Foster Care workers, and Supervisors) and Private Agency caseworkers. Each agency can identify 1-3 staff members to participate.

Training Dates: A mandatory pre-training workshop webinar will be held on May 24th from 9:30-11:00 am; an in-person train-the-trainer event will be held on May 31st and June 1st from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Agency Commitment and Timeline: Interested participants must commit to 1) getting front line staff and others trained in the toolkit and how to use selected tools with client populations; 2) using selected tools with client populations; and 3) participating in interviews, if selected, for the process evaluation. The timeline for this project is May-August. September is devoted to formal reflection and process evaluation, which includes interviews.

WWW.NCDHHS.GOV

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

An informational webinar will be held on May 2nd from 9:30-10:30 am. This will be an opportunity for you to learn more about Pathway's Project, the YMYG toolkit, and expectations of your agency in regards to the project. To register please use the following link: <https://attendee.gototraining.com/r/4310184918886808066>.

If your agency is interested in participating in the Pathways Project for NC's Youth in Transition, submit a Letter of Interest and Commitment (template attached) by close of business on May 15th. Letters of Interest and Commitment can be faxed to (919) 334-1097. Pilot agencies will be selected based on the following criteria: 1) need; 2) commitment to participate; 3) diverse settings; 4) agency composition and location; and 5) proposed growth activities.

If you have any questions regarding the Pathways Project for NC Youth in Transition please contact Erin Baluyot at (919) 527-6369 or erin.baluyot@dhhs.nc.gov; or Erin Conner at (919) 527-6351 or erin.conner@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin Kelley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "K".

Kevin Kelley, Section Chief
Child Welfare Services

Attachment (1) Letter of Interest and Commitment Template